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Total pages in this transmission: 16

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Gudrun E. Hockett, Patent Agent

Applicant: Dieter Hirt et al.  
Serial No: 10/710,893  
U.S. Filed: 8/11/2004  
For: Clamping Device for Hexagon Bits

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents (except U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications) are attached.

These references (or their equivalents: US 4,753,142 = DE 36 10 749 C2) have been cited in a German Office Action of the counterpart German patent application.

Reference 2 shows in Figs. 4 to 7 a sleeve 25 having a recess 26. The sleeve 25 is retractable into a first position (Fig. 4) in which conical recesses 23 of a bit receptacle 20 arranged in a hexagon shape and containing balls 24 are aligned with the recess 26 of the sleeve 25. When a bit is inserted (Fig. 5), the balls 24 are moved outwardly farther into the recess 26. When the sleeve 25 is moved into the locking position (Fig. 6) for securing the bit, the balls 24 engage a groove 41 on the bit.

It is herewith stated that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of

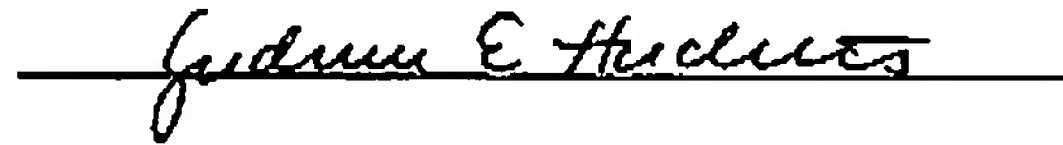
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December 18, 2005 - Information Disclosure Statement - Ser. No. 10/710,893

**this information disclosure statement.**

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted December 18, 2005,



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GEH/Enclosures:

☒ PTO 1449

☒ reference(s)

☐ search report (incl. translation)

<b>PTO 1449</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	10/710,893
		<b>Filing Date</b>	8/11/2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Dieter Hirt
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
<b>Date submitted: 12/18/05</b>		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Sheet 1 of 1</b>		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	A92145

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	4,753,142	8/28/1988	Hornung	81	429	3/30/1987

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	2	202 11 170	11/14/2002	Germany				X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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